



MINUTES OF THE ARTS, CULTURE, LEISURE AND RECREATION SPC MEETING

HELD ON MONDAY 19TH SEPTEMBER 2022

Members:

Cllr. Cat O'Driscoll (Chair)
Cllr. Mary Freehill
Cllr. Deirdre Heney
Cllr. Dearbhail Butler
Cllr. Patricia Roe
Cllr. Damian O'Farrell
Cllr. Vincent Jackson
Cllr. Seamus McGrattan
Cllr. Darragh Moriarty
Cllr. Declan Flanagan
Cllr. Claire Byrne
Cllr. Hazel De Nortuin

Julian de Spáinn, Conradh na Gaeilge
Sunil Sharpe, Give us the Night
Adekunle Gomez, African Cultural Project
Willie White, Dublin Theatre Festival
Mary O'Connor, Federation of Irish Sport
Ciaran Taylor, White Cane Audio Theatre
Ross Keane, Irish Film Institute

Apologies:

Cllr. Anne Feeney

Officials present:

Richard Shakespeare, Assistant Chief Executive
Anthony Flynn, Executive Manager
Les Moore, City Parks Superintendent
Donncha Ó Dúlaing, Senior Executive Officer
Don Daly, Project Manager
Brendan Teeling, Deputy City Librarian
Ruairí O'Cuiv, Public Art Manager
Ray Yeates, City Arts Officer
Iseult Byrne, DCC Culture Company
Fanchea Gibson, Administrative Officer

Minutes by Denice Kirwan/Fanchea Gibson

Others present:

Cllr Donna Cooney
Cllr Dermot Lacey

1. Draft Minutes of Meeting held on 25th July 2022

Action: Agreed.

2. Presentation on Dublin City Sports Plan 2023 – 2028 – Donncha Ó Dúlaing, Senior Executive Officer and Don Daly, Project Manager

An overview was provided on the following:

- Current Status
- Purpose of the plan
- Factors to be considered
- Timeframe
- Infrastructure Strategy

Donncha to provide information in relation to the number of activities delivered through Irish and the number of staff available to provide this service. An audit of existing

facilities will be included in the Plan. Energy upgrading of facilities is being looked at and update will be brought back to SPC.

Action: Noted.

3. Motion submitted in the name of Cllr D. Ceitinn (Referred from the South East Area Committee dated 11th July 2022):-

“That this area committee, in line with the ongoing documentation of the history and heritage of Dublin City through bronze footpath plaques such as those in place across the city including the South East Area (South Anne Street, South King St, Kildare St, Grafton St, Molesworth St, Donor Ave, O Connell Street, Sackville St, Moore St, Westmoreland St, Dame St, to name a few) agrees that DCC southside roads should facilitate the Cabra Historical Society in the placing of a plaque outside the birth place of Irish National Invincible Tim Kelly at 12 Redmond's Hill.”

Report:

The City Council established a formal Commemorative Plaques scheme in 2012, due in part to the ‘need to ensure that a proliferation of memorials and plaques does not detract from the wider amenity and enjoyment of public spaces’.

The scheme is overseen by the Commemorations & Naming Committee.

We have an established scheme which uses a specific plaque, designed to go on a structure and to be easily legible from a distance.

40 plaques have been erected since the scheme was established, and the Council's Commemorations & Naming Committee has given approval for a further 9 plaques to be erected this year alone.

It is open to individuals and groups, such as the Cabra Historical Society, to apply for the erection of a plaque.

Given that the council has a formal plaques scheme, under which applications are considered against clearly set down criteria and are decided upon by the elected members, individuals and groups should be encouraged to avail of that scheme rather than come up with their own designs. Supporting this proposal would set an undesirable precedent.

In addition, Road Maintenance Services Division have concerns regarding the installation of plaques in the pavement due to increased risk of slips and trips, and general non-compliance with the council's pavement standards.

Contact:

Brendan Teeling, Deputy City Librarian, email: brendan.teeling@dublincity.ie

Action: Refer to Commemoration's & Naming Committee.

4. Arts Grants .Review – Ray Yeates, City Arts Officer

Interim Arts Plan is in development. Established groups will require additional supports/mentoring to access funding. Current DCC sports/community centres could be considered for use to provide spaces for the Arts.

Action: Noted.

5. Update report on Dublin City Culture Company – Iseult Byrne, CEO

An update was provided on the following:

- Key achievements & Development
- Historians in Residence

- Cultural Audit & Map
- Events at Richmond Barracks
- Dublin Festival of History

Action: Noted

6. Management Update

- Motion submitted by Cllr. Freehill could not be discussed as it was deemed operational. However, elements could be submitted to the Local JPC for consideration.
- In response to a question on wildlife, DCC staff regularly remove dead birds from Bull Island which are tested by the Dept. Of Agriculture for avian flu.

Action: Noted.

7. Topic submitted in the name of Cllr D. Lacey for discussion:-

“This Committee requests the Manager to bring forward a strategy for installing what are called “Conversation Benches” in all our Public parks. These benches would be painted a distinct colour – yellow – that would indicate the person sitting there was open to conversation and would welcome same.”

Action: It was agreed to install one bench in a park on a trial basis. Cllr Lacey will liaise with Les Moore to agree a suitable location.

8. Topic submitted in the name of Sunil Sharpe, Give us the Night, for discussion:-

“For Dublin City Council to readily include public dancing into the programme of events at its venues, and to enable more post-midnight options for these venues that will support a healthy and more diverse night time economy. To address the severe shortage of dance spaces in the city (which have fallen by over 75% since the year 2000), this commitment would also apply to the design of new arts venues and performance spaces in the city, to deliver a more multi-use model than is currently the norm in Dublin. For these spaces to highlight and support the close relationship between art makers, visual artists and musical practitioners, that will celebrate night culture at its creative best”

The substantial reduced number of niteclubs in Dublin was discussed. Support for night time economy is required. There may be an opportunity for events to be held in the Fruit & Veg market space.

Action: Noted.

9. Approved Minutes of the DCSWP meeting dated 8th June 2022

Action: Noted.

10. Miontuairiscí 3ú Meitheamh 2022 (Irish and English)

Action: Noted.

11. Approved Minutes of the Arts and Cultural Advisory Group meeting dated 4th July 2022

Action: Noted.

12. Breviate of draft Minutes of the Commemorations and Naming Committee dated 14th July 2022

Action: Noted.

13. Miontuairiscí 22ú Iúil 2022 (Irish and English)

Action: Noted.

14. Breviate of draft Minutes of ACAG dated 5th September 2022.

Action: Noted.

15. A.O.B

- Proposal for a DCC Museum on Chatham Row - It was agreed to nominate 3 Councillors to an internal DCC Steering Group to oversee the development of the proposal. Councillors Mary Freehill, Clare Byrne and Cat O'Driscoll were nominated to the Steering Group on behalf of the SPC.
- Cllr. Cooney expressed her thanks to the Arts Office, City Hall and Dublin City Culture Company for the recent commemorative event held to mark the 100th anniversary of the death of Michael Collins.
- New Arts Venues: There are 2 separate projects being considered – a 500 seater venue and a 400-1000 music venue which is at the feasibility stage.

Date of next meeting: Monday 21st November 2022 at 9.30 a.m. Location TBC

**Cllr Cat O'Driscoll
Chairperson**